

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

May 20, 2004

The President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

During your Presidential campaign in 2000 you said the following when asked about high energy prices and Presidential action: "What I think the President ought to do is he ought to get on the phone with the OPEC cartel and say we expect you to open your spigots. The President of the United States must jawbone OPEC members to lower the (oil) price."

As you are aware, one of the many recommendations my Democratic colleagues and other members have urged on you is to exert diplomatic pressure on OPEC members to increase oil production. Despite repeated calls for Administration action in this area, we have yet to see much in the way of concrete results.

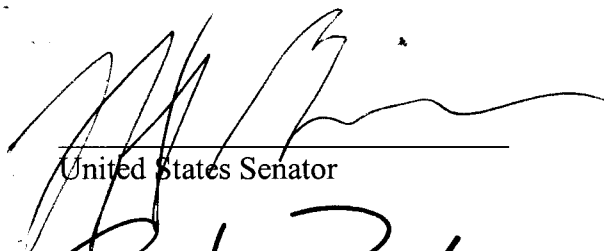
This weekend, your Secretary of Energy will travel to Amsterdam, to attend the 9th International Energy Forum. This meeting will provide the Secretary with an opportunity to talk with OPEC representatives about the current tightness in oil markets.

Several OPEC ministers have said this week that they will use the Amsterdam meeting to discuss the current oil supply situation and the high level of oil prices. Some analysts believe that the group will consider, during the Amsterdam forum, Saudi Arabia's proposal to raise OPEC's production ceiling by 1.5 million barrels per day from above the current level of 23.5 million barrels per day.

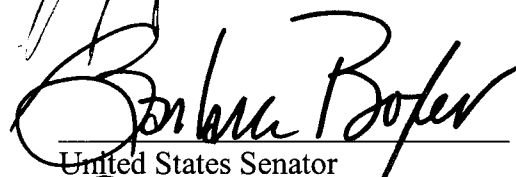
We hope that Secretary Abraham will support such an effort and use the opportunity for bilateral meetings with OPEC ministers to further voice our concern about the effect that high energy prices are having on American consumers and our nation's economy. Secretary Abraham should exert diplomatic pressure on OPEC to increase oil supplies during his visit. We are hopeful that Secretary Abraham can get a commitment from OPEC to raise production immediately.

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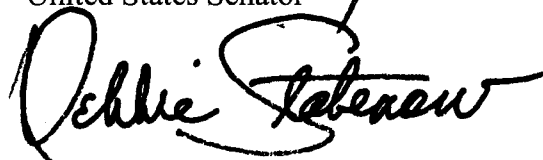
Sincerely,



United States Senator



United States Senator



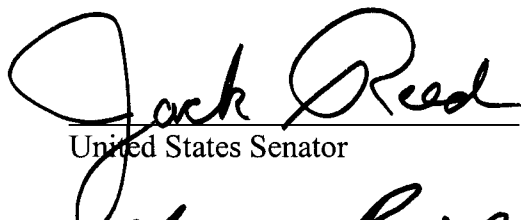
United States Senator



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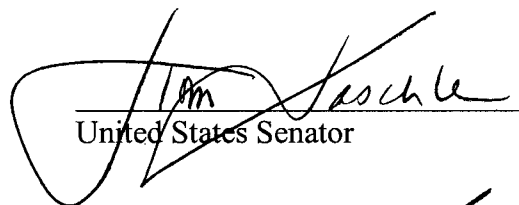
United States Senator



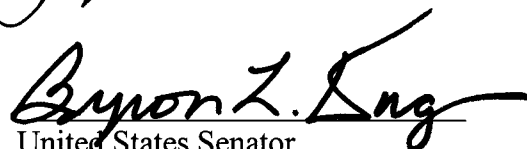
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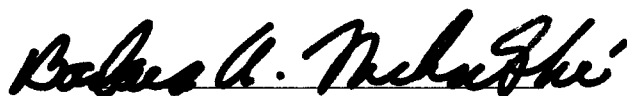
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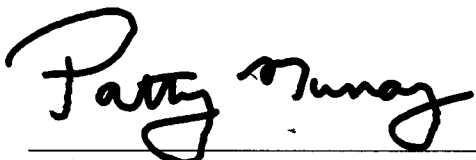
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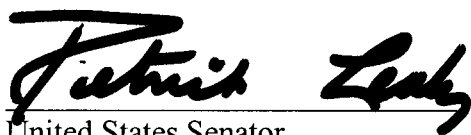
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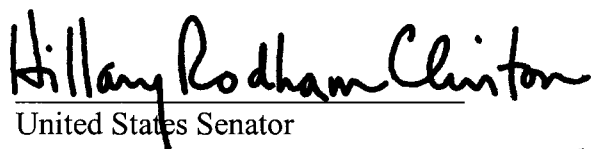
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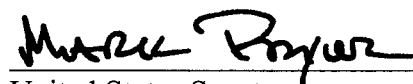
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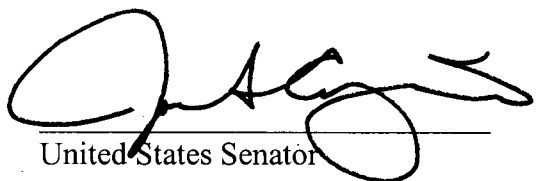
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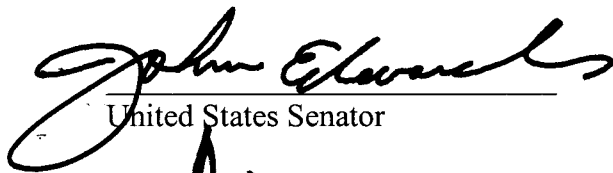


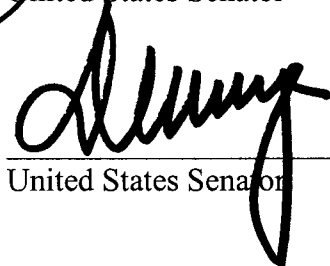
United States Senator



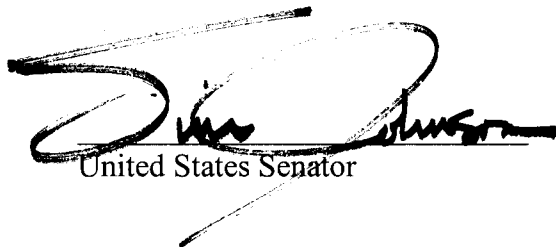
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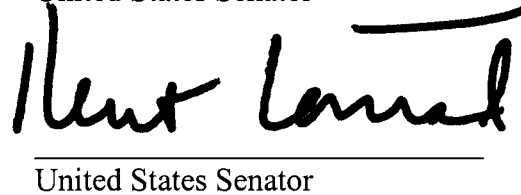

United States Senator

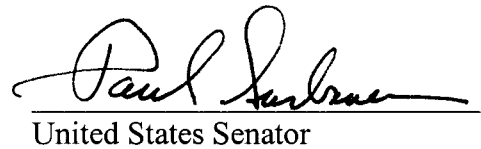

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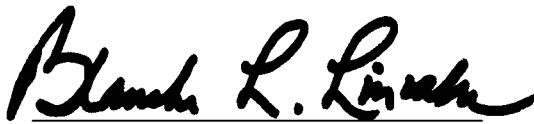

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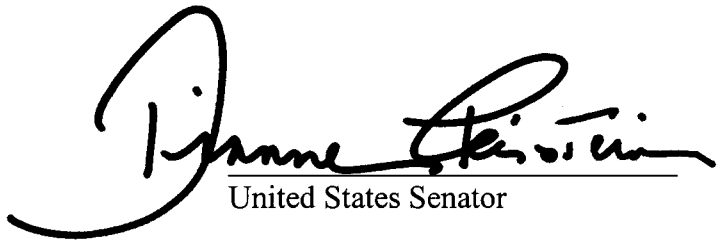

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A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Blanche L. Lincoln". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "B".

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A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Dianne Feinstein". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "D".

United States Senator